

HARRIS COUNTY JUVENILE PROBATION DEPARTMENT

2018 ANNUAL REPORT

A photograph of two women standing in a warehouse or storage facility, surrounded by tall shelves filled with cardboard boxes. The woman on the left is older, with shoulder-length brown hair, wearing a black judicial robe over a dark top. The woman on the right is younger, with long dark hair, wearing a tan cardigan over a dark top. Both are smiling at the camera.

A NEW CHAPTER



Mission Statement

The Harris County Juvenile Probation Department is committed to the protection of the public utilizing intervention strategies that are community-based, family-oriented, and least restrictive while emphasizing responsibility and accountability of both parent and child.

Core Values

We value the belief that everyone is to be treated with dignity and respect.

We value the belief that each person has innate worth, dignity,
and the capacity for positive change.

We value services that are ethical, effective, and culturally competent.

We value and promote a positive image of the department, employees,
and our role within the community.

We value an environment that promotes initiative, productivity, teamwork,
and professional growth.

We value an atmosphere which stresses tolerance and is free of discrimination.

We value developing collaborative efforts with judicial, legislative,
and community partners.

On the Cover: Judge Dena Fisher and Cristina Cortez

Throughout the HCJPD annual report, you will find stories of former juvenile justice involved youth who have created their own “New Chapters” of positive futures for themselves.

Cristina Cortez, page 4.

Joe Campo, page 8

Damon Walker, page 9

Rene Lugo, page 12

James Odom, page 16

Trevon Thomas, page 17

On the Back: Henry Gonzales and Rene Lugo

A photograph of a library interior. In the foreground, a lamp with a stained glass shade and a dark metal base sits on a light-colored surface. To the right of the lamp, several old, thick books are stacked. The background shows bookshelves filled with books, slightly out of focus. The lighting is warm and soft.

A New Chapter

Life is like a book with many chapters, each representing significant events in people's lives. Some of these chapters are filled with joyful moments while others include life's tribulations. For the juveniles we work with, many of their respective chapters are comparable to each other with stories of hardships, adversity, and crises. Their involvement in the juvenile justice system may have seemed like the beginning of the end of a bad book. However, life's chapters, like those in a book, include transition and change and if the page is never turned, we never find out what that next chapter has in store.

This year, the Harris County Juvenile Probation Department's 2018 Annual Report highlights former youth whose life story included the Harris County Juvenile Probation Department and they are eager to share the chapters that followed.

Harris County Commissioners Court

The Harris County Commissioners Court is a five-member elected body responsible for the general administration of county business. As a county agency, the Juvenile Probation Department receives most of its annual budget from the Commissioners Court. In CY 2018, \$77,084,126.45 was allocated for staff salaries, direct client services, county facilities and general operating expenses.

The Commissioners Court also determines county personnel regulations and sets operational guidelines followed by the department. Commissioners Court support enables the Juvenile Probation Department to provide services to thousands of at-risk youth and their families each year.

The members of Commissioners Court are as follows:

Lina Hidalgo
Harris County Judge

Rodney Ellis
Commissioner, Precinct One

Adrian Garcia
Commissioner, Precinct Two

Steve Radack
Commissioner, Precinct Three

R. Jack Cagle
Commissioner, Precinct Four

2018 Juvenile Board

Judge Ed Emmett Harris County, Chairperson

Judge Glenn Devlin 313th District Court

Judge John F. Phillips 314th District Court

Judge Michael Schneider
315th District Court, Vice Chairperson, Secretary

Judge Bill Burke 189th Civil District Court

Judge Lisa Millard 310th District Court

Judge Don Coffey
Harris County Justice of the Peace Court (Precinct 3, Place 2)

Judge Denise Bradley 262nd Criminal District Court

Harris County Juvenile Board

The Harris County Juvenile Board is the governing body of the Juvenile Probation Department. It also serves as the school board for the Juvenile Probation Excel Academy Charter School. As mandated by state statute, the Juvenile Board monitors all of the department's programs, institutional services and residential placement facilities. The board also sets administrative policies and approves the department's annual budget prior to submission to Commissioners Court.



Lina Hidalgo
Harris County, Chairperson



Natalia Oakes
313th District Court



Michelle Moore
314th District Court



Leah Shapiro
315th District Court,
Vice Chairperson, Secretary



Julia Maldonado
507th Family District
Court



Tonya Garrison
157th Civil District Court



Jo Ann Delgado
Harris County Justice
of the Peace Court
(Precinct 2, Place 1)



Judge Danilo LaCayo
182nd Criminal
District Court

Associate Judges



William Thursland
313th District Court



Eric Andell
314th District Court



Dena Fisher
315th District Court



Samantha Davis
Detention Referee

Letter from the Chief



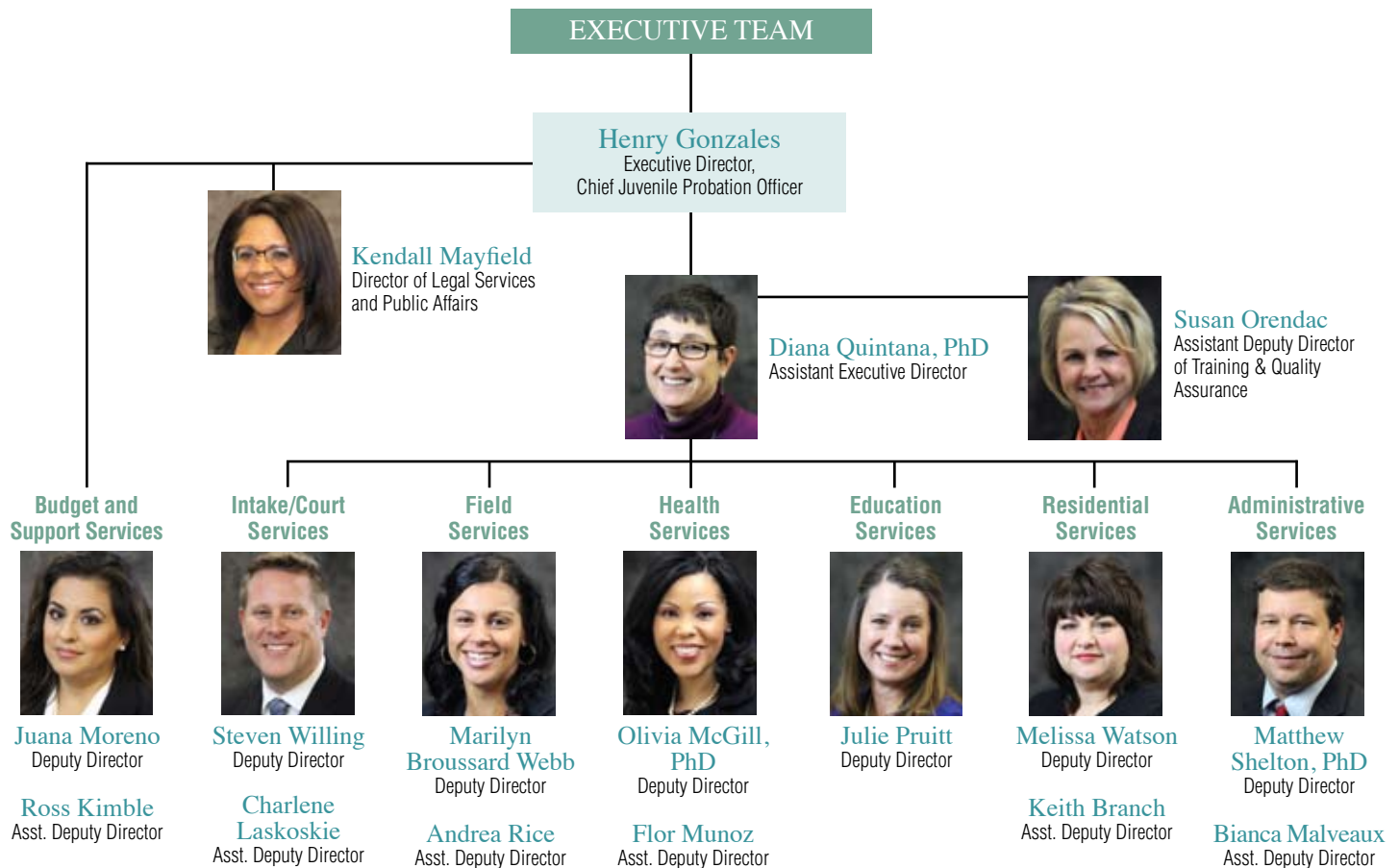
Like people, any organization is made up of different chapters and for the Harris County Juvenile Probation Department, it too begins a new chapter. This new chapter consists of new leadership with a new Executive Director, new Juvenile Court Judges, and a new Juvenile Board chaired by a new County Judge. As the department turns the page to this new chapter, I am excited to be a part of writing this next chapter as Executive Director alongside staff who at every level strive to go above and beyond to make a difference in the lives of the children we work with. I am enthused to work with our new judges, associate judges and Juvenile Board to create transition and change that comes with every new chapter. I look forward to the contributions of many other juvenile justice professionals who each play a vital role throughout our story. This next chapter cannot be written without the participation of so many youth serving partners who many times serve as an agent for change in the stories of our youth. Finally, no future chapter can be written without the support of the various organizations and individuals who help us push past those difficult pages assisting our move onto new and exciting ones.

As you will read in the stories in this report, the previous chapters of our department are well represented by individuals and organizations who helped pen the “next chapter” of these young people’s lives. As the department’s new Executive Director I hope to not only continue the legacy of this great organization, but to also be a part of enhancing Harris County’s Juvenile Justice System.

Henry Gonzales
Executive Director

HARRIS COUNTY JUVENILE PROBATION DEPARTMENT

Organizational Chart



Cristina Cortez

I grew up in a single parent low-income household, my mom had to work twice as hard to take care of four children, leaving very little time to dedicate to us. I felt neglected and lacked a clear sense of direction and turned to the wrong crowd for attention. It wasn't long after committing minor delinquencies that I was arrested for a serious felony offense. As a result I was placed on probation, which unexpectedly changed the course of my life. My Probation Officer, Dena Fisher, took an interest in my education, something my parents did not do. Ms. Fisher pushed me to get into activities that would spark my interests, helped me get into summer camps that would introduce me to new people with similar goals and aspirations, she encouraged me to volunteer which opened my eyes to future career choices and essentially exposed me to a world of opportunities that I did not know existed. The amount of time, support and dedication she gave me was immeasurable. Ms. Fisher continued to be a positive force in my life way past my time in probation despite being busy with her work and attending law school. She became a mentor, confidant, and lifetime friend and through her guidance I was able to build self-confidence and courage to pursue my dreams. I would go on to get my Bachelors degree from Texas A&M University in 2005, worked in the Oil & Gas industry as a Project Manager for many years and now raising a beautiful family.

2018 Expenditures

2018 HARRIS COUNTY JUVENILE PROBATION DEPARTMENTAL STATISTICS

HARRIS COUNTY

Harris County General Fund	\$ 77,084,126.45
Juvenile Supervision Fees	\$ 85,396.54
Family Protection Fees	\$ 32,954.48
TRIAD	\$ 1,923,529.81
	\$ 79,126,007.28

STATE

TJJD - State Financial Assistance	\$ 16,158,413.81
TJJD - Leadership Academy	\$ 921,241.51
TJJD - Special Needs Diversionary (TCOOMMI)	\$ 271,250.68
TJJD- Regional Service Enhancement Projects	\$ 10,418.63
TJJD- Global Youth Services Day	\$ 300.00
Juvenile Probation Equipment Fund	\$ 12,222.00
Regional Juvenile Mental Health Services	\$ 13,065.00
CJD - Growing Independence Restoring Lives	\$ 51,202.15
	\$ 17,438,113.78

PRIVATE

State Farm - Roc the Mic, Rock the Music	\$ 7,994.10
Houston Endowment	\$ 268,531.38
Whole Kids Foundation	\$ 345.71
	\$ 276,871.19

FEDERAL

Title IV-E	\$ 570,921.75
Girls Inspiring Future Triumphs (GIFT)	\$ 4,352.85
Personal Responsibility Education Program	\$ 62,500.00
NSLP Equipment Assistance	\$ 31,231.96
	\$ 669,006.56

FEDERAL/STATE/OTHER

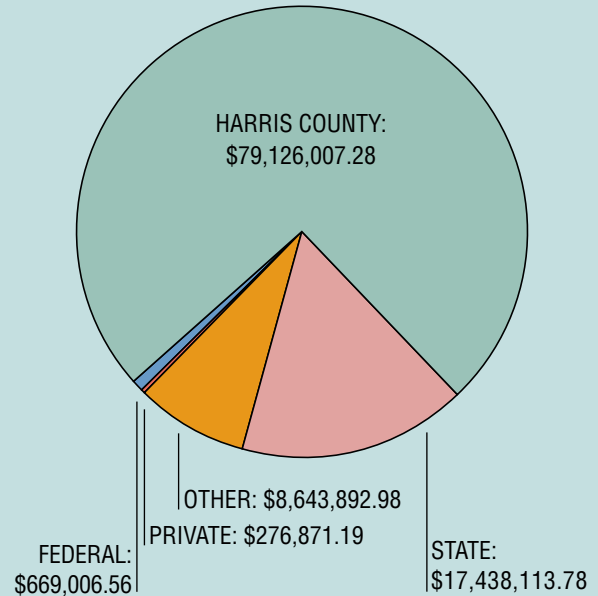
JJAEP Programs and Charter School	\$ 8,643,892.98
	\$ 8,643,892.98

TOTAL 2018 EXPENDITURES \$ 106,153,891.79

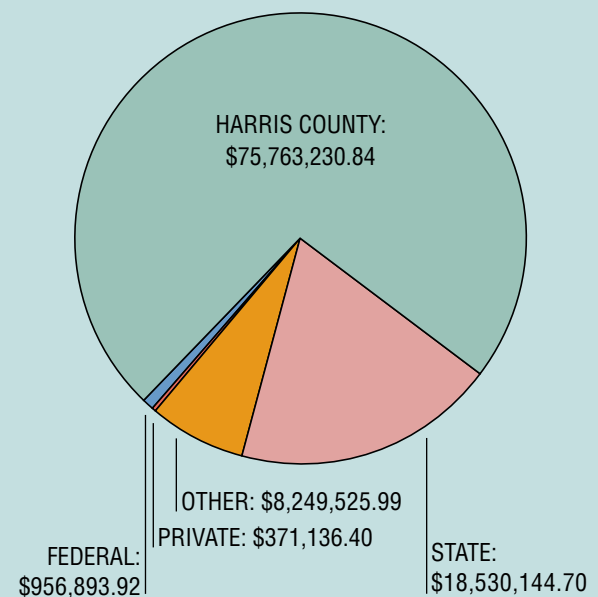
JPD Expenditures without JJAEP/Charter School	\$ 97,509,998.81
	\$ 97,509,998.81

COMPARISON: 2018 - 2017 EXPENDITURES

2018 - TOTAL 2018 EXPENDITURES: \$106,153,891.79

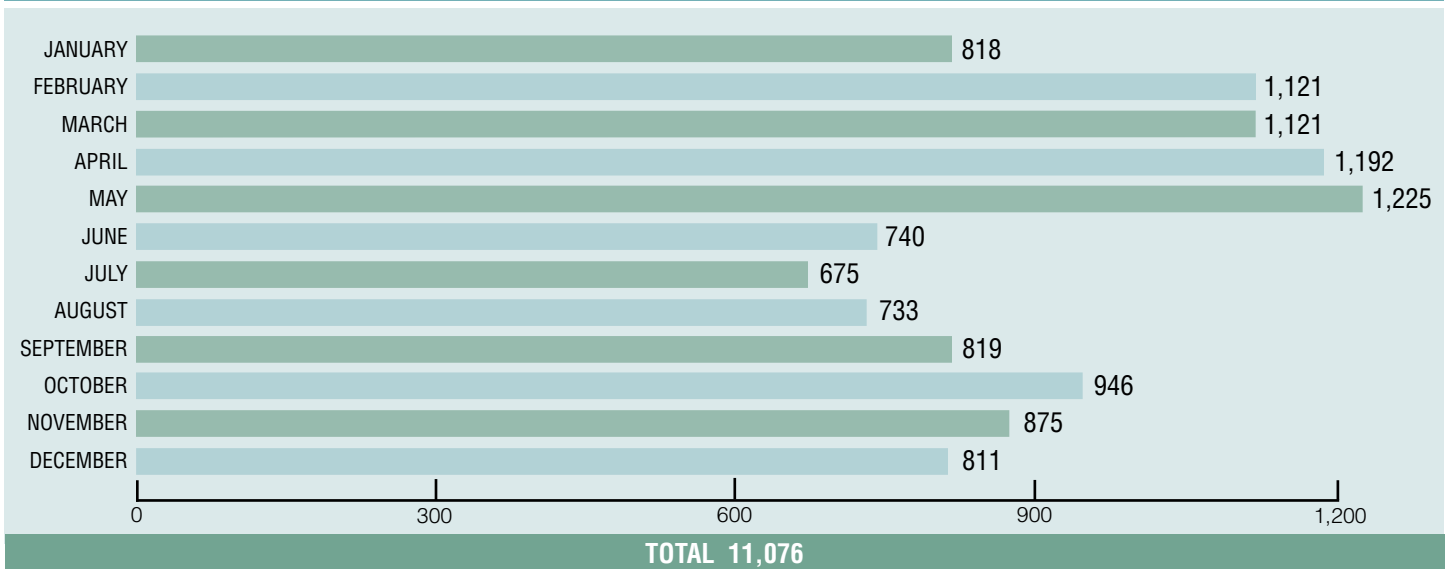


2017 - TOTAL 2017 EXPENDITURES: \$103,870,931.85



Referral Data 2018

NUMBER OF REFERRALS BY MONTH



REFERRALS FOR FEMALES BY ETHNICITY AND AGE

AGE	African American	Hispanic	Caucasian	Other	TOTAL
10	2	3	1	0	6
11	18	15	12	0	45
12	53	54	21	3	131
13	136	82	56	2	276
14	202	163	76	2	443
15	273	219	123	8	623
16+	459	336	204	17	1,016
FEMALES SUB-TOTAL	1,143	872	493	32	2,540

REFERRING AGENCY

AGENCY	TOTAL
Baytown Police Department	199
Constable's Office	732
Harris County Sheriff	747
Houston Police Department	2,023
Juvenile Probation Officer*	2,829
Other	1,348
Pasadena Police	145
Schools	3,053
TOTAL	11,076

* Referrals representing Juvenile Probation Officer include administrative actions, early termination of probation, and request for change in custody. Referrals are not limited to violations of probation and/or detention.

REFERRALS FOR MALES BY ETHNICITY AND AGE

AGE	African American	Hispanic	Caucasian	Other	TOTAL
10	18	12	13	0	43
11	46	38	16	0	100
12	114	129	69	2	314
13	267	244	143	8	662
14	583	475	217	6	1,281
15	920	739	337	19	2,015
16+	1,977	1,532	590	22	4,121
MALES SUB-TOTAL	3,925	3,169	1,385	57	8,536
GRAND TOTAL	5,068	4,041	1,878	89	11,076

OFFENSE SEVERITY

OFFENSE SEVERITY	TOTAL
Felonies	2,097
Misd. A/B	4,724
Misd. C/Less	835
CHINS	203
Admin. Actions**	3,217
TOTAL	11,076

** Administrative Actions may include events such as: motion to modify, hold as material witness, request for change in custody, and/or motion for release and transfer. Actions or events not limited to these categories.

Referral Data 2018

REFERRALS BY SCHOOL DISTRICT

SCHOOL DISTRICT	African American	Hispanic	Caucasian	Other	TOTAL
Aldine	355	361	67	1	784
Alief	277	233	45	4	559
Channelview	15	43	22	0	80
Clear Creek	44	35	44	5	128
Conroe	7	6	15	0	28
Crosby	8	11	14	0	33
Cypress-Fairbanks	422	296	175	7	900
Deer Park	3	22	31	0	56
Fort Bend	32	21	4	4	61
Galena Park	73	118	22	0	213
Goose Creek	58	108	77	0	243
Houston	1,889	1,122	308	23	3,342
Huffman	3	1	9	0	13
Humble	142	41	78	10	271
Katy	97	67	107	8	279
Klein	215	106	106	3	430
La Porte	12	15	41	1	69
Pasadena	101	334	110	1	546
Richard Milburn Academy	3	20	2	0	25
Sheldon	45	23	16	0	84
Southwest School	7	13	11	0	31
Spring	369	67	38	1	475
Spring Branch	37	192	56	5	290
Stafford	5	0	4	0	9
Texans Can Academies	112	61	12	0	185
Tomball	6	8	23	0	37
Waller	8	4	10	0	22
Charter Schools	72	58	16	1	147
GED Program	72	85	25	0	182
Private/Parochial	22	22	33	2	79
Out of County	172	120	104	2	398
College/University	3	2	2	0	7
Home School	59	60	54	1	174
H C Education Dept	4	1	4	0	9
Juvenile Board Charter School	15	26	3	0	44
In transition-not enrolled	51	34	14	0	99
Not Available					744
TOTAL	4,815	3,736	1,702	79	11,076

“Sometimes our lives have to be completely shaken up, changed, and rearranged to relocate us to the place we are meant to be”

- unknown -



Joe Campos

After my parents' divorce, I went back and forth between homes. My stepmom was physically abusive, so CPS got involved and gave my father two options; either he signs his rights away, or his wife goes to prison. He signed away his rights, so I returned to my mom. I found love and respect only in the streets, so I left home when I was 14. Hating life and everyone, I turned to violence, drugs and gangs. Many friends died because of gang activity or violence. To this day, I can't stand the smell of roses - they remind me of death because funerals were the only time I smelled flowers. I was detained at the Harris County Juvenile Detention Center. With so much anger and bitterness inside, and having been told I may be sentenced to TYC or TDC, I attempted suicide in my cell. The day before my court hearing, JJ Ramirez, with Save Our Streets Ministries, came to my hearing to see if I could be sent to the SOS Ministries Boys Home. I was sent there on one year probation!

While at the Boys Home, I was sent to the Bryan ISD alternative school. My grades went from straight F's to straight A's. I received an academic excellence award, and I went to state three times on the wrestling team - even qualified for nationals! After my probation was over, I stayed in Bryan ISD, and became the first in my family to graduate. A friend that I lived with in the streets is currently doing a life sentence for murder. If I had gone back to Houston after completing probation, I'm sure I'd be in jail or in a coffin.

I joined the United States Navy in 2001, and after 7 years of active service, am now in the Reserves. I'm the Vice President for a 501 (c)3 organization called College Education Development Fund. I received a BA in Theology in 2012, and a Bachelor's in Business Administration in 2014, on full scholarship. I have been blessed with several careers, and now I'm a successful entrepreneur.

I volunteer with incarcerated juveniles and adults and with local ministries, in addition to being the Director of Outreach and Evangelism for Aldersgate Church.

Since November 4th, 1995, my life has not been the same! From carrying a gun to school to carrying my bible to school; from hate to love! Still reaching the youth everywhere I go. As a Christian Hip/Hop artist, Livin' Proof, I perform for church and neighborhood communities.



Offense Data 2018

OFFENSE PER REFERRAL 2017 - 2018		
OFFENSE	2017	2018
Homicide	10	16
Arson	28	25
Assault - Felony	289	408
MA/MB	853	1,140
Sexual Assault	100	106
Robbery	404	390
Burglary	258	168
Theft - Felony	118	97
MA/MB	726	610
Auto Theft	24	24
Unauthorized Use of a Motor Vehicle	218	216
Drugs - Felony	54	148
MA/MB	1,054	1,162
Mischief - Felony	36	45
MA/MB	179	197
Evade/Resisting Arrest - Felony	135	124
MA/MB	527	422
DWI - MA/MB	11	13
Trespass - MA/MB	420	388
Other - Felony	202	330
MA/MB	519	788
SUB-TOTAL	6,165	6,817
Assault - MC	9	7
Theft - MC	4	7
Drugs - MC	1	4
Other - MC	12	21
Disorderly Conduct	7	1
City Ordinance Violations	5	3
Violations of Probation	1,112	767
SUB-TOTAL	1,150	810
Runaways - CHINS *	206	165
Other CHINS *	1	42
TYC Runaways	9	25
Administrative Actions **	3,525	3,217
SUB-TOTAL	3,741	3,449
TOTAL	11,056	11,076

* Children in need of supervision.

** Administrative Actions may include offenses such as: motion to modify, hold as material witness, request of change in custody, motion for release and transfer. Offenses not limited to these categories.

Offense Data 2018

OFFENSE PER ADMISSION TO DETENTION 2017 - 2018		
OFFENSE	2017	2018
Murder	5	18
Arson	23	24
Assault		
Felony	284	478
Misd. A/B	549	605
Sexual Assault	95	100
Robbery	403	398
Burglary	172	101
Theft		
Felony	85	89
Misd. A/B	262	210
Misd. C	0	0
Auto Theft	19	18
Unauthorized Use of a Motor Vehicle	181	160
Drugs		
Felony	36	32
Misd. A/B	249	220
Mischief		
Felony	12	26
Misd. A/B	82	80
Evade/Resisting Arrest		
Felony	108	102
Misd. A/B	258	222
DWI - Misd. A/B	1	8
Trespass	181	161
Other		
Felony	131	255
Misd. A/B	311	576
Misd. C	0	1
Disorderly Conduct	1	0
City Ordinance	3	0
Violation of Probation	822	565
Runaway* (CHINS)	50	51
TJJD Runaways	10	23
Administrative Actions	130	101
TOTAL	4,463	4,624

* Children in need of supervision (status offenses)

Includes diverted youth

* Youth can have multiple admissions for an offense.

Damion Walker

My name is Damion JaDonne Walker. I was arrested at age 16, and later certified as an adult. My experience in the Juvenile Justice System was frightening in some ways, yet also encouraging. I was frightened because I was facing a long sentence for my crimes. However, the experience was encouraging because I was able to learn from the teachers, and I was able to get back to education as a result of being arrested and incarcerated.

After I received my GED in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ), I went on to enroll in Alvin Community College, and earned an Associate's Degree and Trade Certificate in Horticulture. While incarcerated, I participated in other educational opportunities such as Windham classes, countless seminars, and Toastmasters International, where I was elected president.

After 17 years of incarceration, I was released, and I enrolled into the University of Houston. I earned a B.A. in Broadcast Journalism with a Minor in Management, Supervision and Leadership. I recently graduated from the Anthony Graves Smart Justice Speakers Bureau, a certificate program at Texas Southern University.

I have participated in other educational opportunities since my release. It's clear to see that Education has transformed my life. That process began for me in the Juvenile Justice System and TDCJ, with the teachers that invested in me.

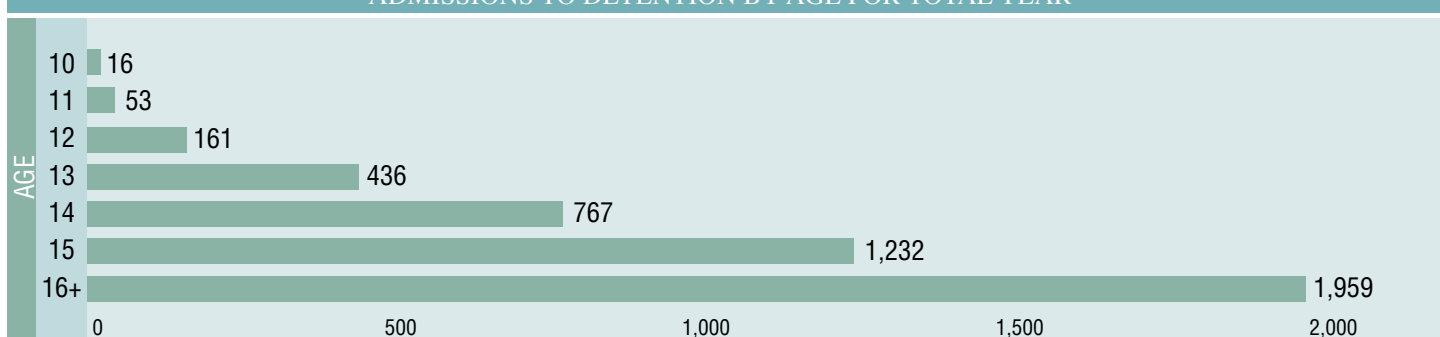


Admissions to Detention Data 2018

ADMISSIONS TO DETENTION BY MONTH AND AGE*

AGE	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTAL	%
10	0	4	2	3	6	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	16	0.3%
11	1	7	4	5	7	1	2	5	5	6	6	4	53	1.1%
12	7	26	13	25	20	18	5	6	12	16	7	6	161	3.5%
13	32	62	52	67	43	22	24	22	31	32	20	29	436	9.4%
14	44	87	78	84	98	48	41	49	55	83	54	46	767	16.6%
15	107	131	110	144	134	88	94	85	91	97	81	70	1,232	26.6%
16+	139	186	172	212	181	156	137	157	131	196	154	138	1,959	42.4%
TOTAL	330	503	431	540	489	334	303	324	325	430	322	293	4,624	100.0%

ADMISSIONS TO DETENTION BY AGE FOR TOTAL YEAR*



ADMISSIONS TO DETENTION BY MONTH, ETHNICITY AND GENDER*

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTAL	%
African American														
FEMALE	28	66	61	57	49	32	39	45	33	50	46	28	534	11.5%
MALE	145	186	170	218	173	137	99	119	135	174	121	117	1,794	38.8%
SUB-TOTAL	173	252	231	275	222	169	138	164	168	224	167	145	2,328	50.3%
Hispanic														
FEMALE	24	37	27	34	29	22	22	32	24	35	21	20	327	7.1%
MALE	84	129	111	146	148	101	99	87	89	111	91	82	1,278	27.6%
SUB-TOTAL	108	166	138	180	177	123	121	119	113	146	112	102	1,605	34.7%
Caucasian														
FEMALE	11	15	13	17	25	14	15	12	9	9	6	7	153	3.3%
MALE	38	64	45	66	62	26	28	27	32	49	35	33	505	10.9%
SUB-TOTAL	49	79	58	83	87	40	43	39	41	58	41	40	658	14.2%
Other														
FEMALE	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	2	2	1	1	0	10	0.2%
MALE	0	5	3	1	3	1	1	0	1	1	1	6	23	0.5%
SUB-TOTAL	0	6	4	2	3	2	1	2	3	2	2	6	33	0.7%
GRAND TOTAL	330	503	431	540	489	334	303	324	325	430	322	293	4,624	100.0%

* Youth may be counted multiple times if a youth had multiple admissions within the noted time period.

Includes diverted youth.

Definition of Detention: Detention is the temporary and safe custody of juveniles. Generally, secure detention should be utilized for youth who, by nature of their offense(s) or conduct, are found to be a danger to self/others, or are believed to be a flight risk. Less restrictive alternatives to secure detention are preferred.

Intake Court Services Division

The Intake Court Services Division is the initial point of contact for youth and families who become involved with the Harris County Juvenile Probation Department. A wide array of family-oriented, early intervention and prevention services are provided to youth referred to the TRIAD Prevention Program and the Deferred Prosecution program.

In addition, there are several alternatives to detention that are utilized for qualifying youth. For youth charged with a Class B Misdemeanor or above, and petitioned to appear in court, the division is responsible for preparing a comprehensive profile of the youth to aid the judges in determining a suitable outcome to their case.

INTAKE SCREENING

Intake screening is located at the Juvenile Justice Center and serves as a 24-hour intake for the Juvenile Probation Department. Harris County law enforcement and an intake officer screen youth, who are charged with a Class B Misdemeanor or above; the youth ages are between 10-17 years old. Intake officers utilize a detention risk assessment (RAI) to determine whether a youth is to be brought into custody or released to a parent/guardian. If it is determined the youth is brought into custody, the youth will appear for a probable cause detention hearing by an associate judge. Intake officers also provide families with resources within their community to address their individual needs.

COURT SERVICES

Once the District Attorney's office has filed a petition, Court Services staff prepare a comprehensive profile of the youth and family. A detailed court report is used along with other information, including the Positive Achievement Change Tool (PACT) to aid the judge in determining a suitable disposition. Juveniles found to have engaged in delinquent conduct may either be placed under rules of probation at home with a parent/guardian, in a county residential facility, private residential facility, or committed to the Texas Juvenile Justice Department (TJJD).

COURT ACTIVITY

COURT DECISIONS	YOUTH REPRESENTED
Certification	17
Certification Denied	1
Certification Reversed	1
CPS Involvement	27
Deferred Adjudication	1,813
Dismissed / Non-Suit	2,525
Early Termination of Probation	253
Not Found CHINS or Delinquent	2
Passed	459
Passed/Writ	296
Probation*	1,813
Probation/Restitution*	211
Probation/Determinate Sentencing**	40
TJJD/Determinate Sentencing**	39
TJJD	117
Bound Over to TDC	14
Other	1,140
TOTAL	8,768

*Includes changes of custody

**Approx. numbers use declared determinate sentencing as court result

*“Every chapter
has a new beginning”*

- unknown -

DEFERRED PROSECUTION PROGRAM

The Deferred Prosecution Program allows the probation department to provide supervision for first time offenders charged with a select category of non-violent offenses. This initiative is designed to divert youth from the formal juvenile justice system while still providing needed services. Upon successful completion of the program, the Harris County District Attorney's office does not file a petition in the case.

In 2018:

- 685 youth were placed on the 90-day Deferred Prosecution Program (DP90).
- 31 youth were placed on the 90-day Deferred Prosecution-Under Age 12 Program (DP90-Under Age 12).
- 374 youth were placed on the 180-day Deferred Prosecution (DP180).

Rene Lugo

I come from a single-parent, low income home. I was a young, semi-literate, troublesome boy, and not having food for dinner on most nights made me sort of appreciate "doing time" in Juvenile Detention. There, I felt all my immediate needs were met: I was clothed, I was in the cold A/C during the Houston summer heat, I had three meals a day, and I felt safe...mostly. It wasn't until I was placed on probation for the second time that I realized a juvenile facility was not the place for me. I began to have more one-on-one meetings with my probation officer, and I spent more time in programs he recommended. Through programs like boxing, I was able to channel my frustrations and energy. I was allowed to express my creativity via a hip-hop breakdance group, and my need for social interaction was developed through a positive group of people that gave me a sense of belonging. Through these activities I stayed busy, focused, and driven. Slowly, the group of "friends" I used to associate with moved further into the background, and my future started to take shape. My school attendance and grades improved, as did my outlook on life. But later that year, at the age of 16, my girlfriend told me she was three months pregnant. Soon after, I came home from school one day and learned that my mom had moved to another city without telling me goodbye. Homeless and with a child on the way, the next year and half became extremely difficult. I tried to keep going to school, however that fizzled quickly as classmates learned of my situation. The temptation to go back to old "friends" to make ends meet was strong, but I knew that wasn't the way out. I finally found help and was referred to a program where I was provided housing, a military-like structure, and an education. I think about the experience of what I have endured and overcome, the seeds of inspiration planted by my Probation Officer, and the goal to become a man that my daughter (now daughters) would one day be proud of; all of these things drove me to work day-in and day-out. I vowed to remain humble and never lose sight of what and who is important. I earned my Master's degree last year, and have enjoyed a profession in education for over 10 years. In addition, I will see my oldest walk across stage this May to earn her degree in Nursing. I hold various titles these days, and all are possible because I changed my mindset and realized that I could be more.



Intake Court Services Division

TRIAD PREVENTION PROGRAM

The Youth Services Center (YSC) serves as a 24-hour intake center for youth who are referred for status offenses such as runaway, truancy, or Class C Misdemeanors, and those who are in need of crisis intervention. The Harris County Juvenile Probation Department (HCJPD), Harris County Protective Services for Children and Adults (HCPS) and the Harris Center for Mental Health and IDD are partners in the TRIAD Prevention Program. Services include program referrals, follow up and emergency shelter.

In 2018:

- 305 troubled youth were assisted.
- 71 non-custody status offense and Class C Misdemeanor referrals were received.

ALTERNATIVES TO DETENTION:

JUVENILE TRACKER PROGRAM - HCJPD contracts with the Harris County Advocate Program (H-CAP) to provide daily supervision for youth pending a court hearing. Initial court dates for youth in the Tracker Program are expedited and occur within 30 days of release. A youth is termed successful if they do not reoffend while on the Tracker Program and appear for their initial court hearing.

In 2018:

445 youth were released under Tracker supervision and 91% were deemed successful.

PRE-ADJUDICATION TEAM - PAT - The PAT program provides intensive supervision to juvenile offenders who are released from detention to await their court dates.

In 2018:

417 cases were referred to the PAT program diverted from detention pending court date.

THE KINDER EMERGENCY SHELTER - Kinder Emergency Shelter provides a community-based residential alternative to secure detention for youth whose significant family conflicts prevent an immediate return home. Wraparound services for youth and families are available through TRIAD.



Health Services Division

The mission of the Health Services Division is to meet the emotional, behavioral, and physical health needs of youth in the juvenile justice system, while supporting the agency's commitment toward protecting the public and providing rehabilitation to juvenile offenders. Medical and therapeutic services are provided at Harris County Juvenile Probation Department's residential facilities and in the community. In meeting the medical and behavioral needs of youth, the Health Services Division collaborates and coordinates services with a wide range of community providers, including the University of Texas, Legacy Community Health Clinic, the University of Houston Optometry Clinic, the Harris Health System, and Baylor College of Medicine.

MEDICAL

A broad-spectrum of medical services are provided through the University of Texas, by pediatricians as well as residents, who specialize in child/adolescent care. Patient care is delivered by both registered and licensed vocational nurses along with certified paramedics. The medical department adheres to all standards established by national guidelines and the Center for Disease Control to assure that optimum care is provided. Psychiatric services are also available to residents in coordination with Baylor College of Medicine.

DISCHARGE COORDINATION SERVICES

Upon discharge from the detention center, families are encouraged to benefit from the follow-up services provided to youth who suffer from medical or mental health conditions. A Licensed Vocational Nurse (LVN) is readily available to provide the resident and family with education on the existing community services and assist in connecting the family to these available treatment providers. This service is offered to promote and facilitate an unremitting continuation of care.

In 2018: the discharge coordinator nurse met with approximately 650 families, made over 142 community referrals, and followed up over 453 times with families to ensure the continuation of medical and or mental health treatment.

FORENSIC UNIT

The Juvenile Forensic Unit is a TRIAD funded program that provides early intervention and addresses the needs of youth involved in multiple county agencies. Clinicians in the Forensic Unit conduct psychological evaluations of youth, who are involved with the Juvenile Probation Department, to help determine their mental health needs and to make recommendations regarding placement and treatment. These reports are provided to the court, the assigned juvenile probation officers, any specialty courts that the youth is involved in, and to any residential placements where the youth will be residing. Some youth also participate in evaluations to help the court answer specific questions regarding competency to stand trial, lack of responsibility, and or to provide information pertaining to waivers of juvenile jurisdiction (certification evaluations).

In 2018: the Forensic Unit conducted 1198 screenings, 728 full psychological evaluations, and 284 psychiatric evaluations.

Medical Services in 2018

Immunizations provided
by medical team

1,262

Assessments/exams
provided by doctors

7,056

Nurse Services to youth at
residential facilities

47,594

Optometry services
provided by the UH

158

Dental Exam and Treatment

1,628

Psychiatric services:

314 Evaluations

440 Follow-ups

The Forensic Unit provides a unique training opportunity for many psychology students. The department has a psychology internship program that is accredited by the American Psychological Association (APA) and attracts top doctoral candidates from all over the United States. In addition, the Forensic Unit provides training opportunities to graduate practicum students from area universities and collaborates with the University of Houston to provide additional didactic and research opportunities. Finally, there are several postdoctoral fellowship positions that provide a specialized assessment and/or intervention experience for recent graduates of a psychology doctoral program.

PSYCHOLOGICAL AND SOCIAL SERVICES UNIT - PSS

The Psychological and Social Services Unit is located in the Harris County Juvenile Justice Center and is comprised of a team of therapists who provide crisis intervention, stabilization services, and individual and group therapy to detained youth. In addition, the unit runs a practicum for various master level university programs; this year we trained 15 interns. Depending on the university program, the interns spent between six to twelve months with PSS and collaborated in the services offered to our detained youth.

This year marked the second year of the Detention Psychiatric Center (DPC), a program under the direction of PSS. The youth on this floor are those with severe mental health issues that impair their ability to function effectively on any other floor in our detention center. This year we were able to secure a full time therapist dedicated to the treatment of the youth

Continued

Health Services Division

The Psychological and Social Services Unit - *Continued*

in DPC and she has been working with the detention staff to implement a consistent program based on the evidence-based practices of Dialectical and Behavioral Therapy and Acceptance and Commitment Therapy.

In 2018: 2,498 youth were referred to the Psychological and Social Services Unit for therapeutic services. A team of seven therapists made over 9,086 documented encounters with detention youth through the year.

DETENTION RESIDENTIAL ASSESSMENT UNIT - DRU

The DRU provides comprehensive assessments consisting of mental health, education and substance abuse evaluations, as well as discussions with the family and youth. These evaluations and interviews are designed to identify the rehabilitative needs of youth and aid in determining the least restrictive, most beneficial placement and services to increase the youth's chance of success, not only with probation but the youth's future as well.

In 2018, 713 youth were processed through the DRU.

SPECIALTY COURTS

Specialty Courts operate within the agency to help address some of the underlying factors that may be impacting a youth's performance.

313TH DISTRICT COURT - GANG COURT Gang Recidivism Intervention Program (GRIP)

Gang Court's goal is to reduce gang involvement by increasing pro-social factors, redirecting youth to healthier alternatives, and augmenting relationships with the family. Gang Court served 32 youth in 2018.

314TH DISTRICT COURT - MENTAL HEALTH COURT

Mental Health Court effectively addresses the underlying clinical component of delinquent behavior with youth who have mental health diagnoses. Mental Health Court served 50 youth in 2018.

315TH DISTRICT COURT - DRUG COURT Sobriety Addiction and Relapse (SOAR)

Drug Court's goal is to reduce substance use and related delinquent behavior among participants while increasing pro-social behavior. Drug Court served 34 youth in 2018.

315TH DISTRICT COURT CARE COURT

Creating Advocacy, Recover, and Empowerment (CARE)
Care Court provides a comprehensive strength-based approach to work with youth who are at-risk for, or are victims of human trafficking. CARE Court served 29 youth in 2018.

SEX OFFENDER COMMUNITY PROVIDER PROGRAM

The Harris County Juvenile Probation Department provides a continuity of care for youth adjudicated for sex offenses. We offer both inpatient and outpatient services to meet the unique needs of this population. The Seeking Empathy, Empowerment and Knowledge (SEEK) program is a 12 bed residential program housed at Burnett-Bayland Rehabilitation Center for boys. The program provides weekly individual and group therapy as well as family therapy. In addition, sex offender therapists provide individual, family, and group counseling to youth and their families at Community Unit Probation Services (CUPS) offices. Sex offender Risk Assessments are completed as ordered by the courts.

FIELD SERVICES COUNSELING PROGRAM

This program provides mental health and support services to probation youth who report to the Community Unit Probation Services (CUPS) offices. Therapeutic services include: individual counseling, family therapy, and group based services. Groups run throughout the year and topics include dealing with societal and peer pressures, increasing personal accountability, improving emotional regulation skills, and identification of individual strengths. Groups also focus on development of interpersonal skills and emotional self-awareness to fulfill court-ordered anger management treatment. The strengths based and process oriented groups cover numerous mental health issues by exploring personal difficulties as well as successes across developmental, individual, and community domains.

In 2018: Therapists served 943 youths (and their families) and conducted over 2,084 sessions.

RESIDENTIAL MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

A team of licensed mental health clinicians are located at each Harris County Juvenile Probation residential facility. The objective of each mental health team is to provide all-inclusive and effective treatment to address the needs of the residents. Youth presenting with significant emotional and/or behavioral symptoms will be assessed by mental health professionals and the appropriate course of treatment will be determined. A wide range of evidenced-based approaches and experiential therapies are employed by the trauma informed residential mental health team to aid the youth in overall stabilization and adjustment. Treatment may include medication management, crisis intervention, individual, group, and family therapy.

*“The best view comes after
the hardest climb”*

- unknown -

Health Services Division

BETA - BEHAVIORAL ENRICHMENT THERAPY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

The BETA program is a young offender residential program for youth ages 14 and under. The BETA program utilizes a whole child, trauma-informed intervention approach to address the attachment, mental health, relational, and behavioral needs of the participants. The goals of the BETA program are for youth to decrease antisocial and disruptive behavior, improve their ability to self-regulate their emotional states, increase their ability to identify and effectively express positive and negative emotional states, and improve relationships and parental dynamics.

BOOST - THE BOYS OVERCOMING OBSTACLES FOR SUCCESS AND TRIUMPH

The BOOST program is housed at Harris County Youth Village. The objective of this program is to treat boys who have experienced childhood trauma. In general, the length of stay is four to six months. During treatment, the residents attend multiple groups a week and individual and family therapy once a week. During individual and group therapies Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT), Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT) and Eye Movement Desensitization Reprocessing (EMDR) are utilized to foster personal development and change. Maintaining good behavior and participating in therapy allows the residents to earn incentives and privileges.

GIFT TREATMENT PROGRAM

The GIFT (Girls Inspiring Future Triumphs) program is a residential trauma program at Youth Village. It is a 24 bed program for girls ages 12-17 that have been involved in human trafficking, or are considered “at-risk” for human trafficking. The program addresses emotional, psychological, and psychiatric issues, while focusing on the trauma history. Issues addressed in therapy include trauma history, emotional dysregulation, at-risk behaviors, appropriate coping skills, relationships, and family problems. The program is approximately six to nine months and provides youth with 14 hours of therapy a week, including individual and family therapy and daily group therapy. The program is a collaboration with Center for Success and it employs five full time therapists who work collaboratively with the Youth Village staff to create a supportive therapeutic community.

In 2018: The GIFT program served 70 youth.

PRIVATE RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT PLACEMENTS

Private placement may be considered when youth's needs are greater than the services available at county residential facilities. The placement unit oversees contracted services of several licensed residential facilities in and out of Texas. Regular visits to private residential centers ensures that youth receive the highest standards of care and services. Family reunification is achieved by engaging youth and their families during their placement. Once the youth is returned home, the continuum of care is delivered into the community and until the end of their probation.

In 2018: 46 youth were sent to private placement facilities.

MULTISYSTEMIC THERAPY PROGRAM

Multi Systemic Therapy (MST) is a unique, goal-oriented, comprehensive treatment program designed to serve multi-problem youth in their community. MST is effective in helping youth with chronic, violent delinquent behavior and youth with serious emotional problems. All interventions are designed in full collaboration with family members and key figures in each of the child's life (parents or legal guardians, school teachers and principals). Eight MST therapists travel throughout the county providing services in the family's home; therapists are on call 24 hours a day to assist with crisis intervention.

In 2018, the MST program provided treatment to 151 families.

PARENTING WITH LOVE AND LIMITS - PLL

Parenting with Love and Limits (PLL), is an evidence-based family education, skill building and therapeutic intervention model. PLL has demonstrated effectiveness in significantly reducing aggressive behaviors, depression, attention deficit disorder and substance use while also reducing recidivism and improving family communication. The program targets specific risk and protective factors related to delinquency and other emotional and behavioral problems. PLL is currently recognized as a Model Program through the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

In 2018: The PLL program served 193 clients.

DUAL STATUS INITIATIVE

The Harris County Juvenile Probation Department (HCJPD) and the Department of Family Protective Services (DFPS) work together to improve the services and outcomes for the youth dually involved with HCJPD and DFPS. The vision of the Dual Status Youth Initiative is that all dually-involved youth can thrive in the areas of wellness, education, and transition to adulthood.



James Odom

As a kid, I had very little structure in my life. I could go anywhere I wanted for as long as I liked. Sometimes, I stayed gone for days at a time without calling home to check in. I never considered the fact that people were worried about me; I was out of control and just didn't care. Things really got out of hand when I began experimenting with drugs and alcohol. I joined a gang, and was kicked out of the 9th grade three years in a row.

When I picked up an offense and was placed on juvenile probation, it was the first time in my life I had rules. I was expected to follow a curfew, go to school every day, and pass random drug screens throughout the month. Naturally, I hated it... but in an effort to avoid going to Juvenile Detention, I followed the rules, did the community service, and attended all my workshops.

As an adult, looking back at my childhood and reflecting on the positives that helped me turn things around, probation played a major role in my successes. I needed someone to take charge of my life and redirect me. I needed structure, and someone who cared and would hold me accountable, while encouraging me to try harder and push further. My probation officer filled that role for me, and I will always be appreciative of her investments and influence in my life.



Residential Services Division

The Harris County Juvenile Probation Department (HCJPD) has one pre-adjudication facility and three post-adjudication facilities. The primary focus is to provide a safe and secure environment for the youth we serve. Staff collaborate with multiple agencies which provide programs and services to meet the needs of the youth and their families.

JUVENILE DETENTION CENTER - JDC



The JDC is a 210 bed pre-adjudication facility, housing youth awaiting court.

BURNETT-BAYLAND REHABILITATION CENTER - BBRC



The BBRC is a 100 bed residential treatment facility providing a variety of treatment modalities to address specialized rehabilitative needs.

HARRIS COUNTY LEADERSHIP ACADEMY - HCLA



The HCLA is a co-ed residential facility with 96 bed capacity. HCLA offers various programs to encourage a healthy self-concept while teaching the importance of respect and personal accountability.

HARRIS COUNTY YOUTH VILLAGE - HCYV



The HCYV is a 128 bed residential facility. Offering GED and Vocational education components for older residents. Youth are eligible to earn home visits, based on behavior, which allow youth the opportunity to transition into the community.

Education Services Division

The Educational Services Division provides educational programs for expelled students, delinquent youth placed in a county-operated juvenile institution, and students on probation who desire an alternative to the traditional high school campus. The Juvenile Probation Department is solely responsible for all programs of the Excel Academy Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Program (JJAEP), Excel Academy Charter School, and the Education Transition Center (ETC).

HCJPD EDUCATION PROGRAM

JUVENILE JUSTICE ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAM - JJAEP -

Students attending the **JJAEP** have been expelled from one of 22 local school districts for criminal activity or serious misconduct in school. The JJAEP assists students in performing at grade level as

a result of academic interventions in language arts, mathematics, science, social studies and self-discipline.

CHARTER SCHOOL

The **Excel Academy Charter School**, a comprehensive academic program, provides educational services to all

juveniles placed in detention and residential facilities by the courts.

■ The charter school provides a regular school year program as well as a summer school program to enable students to continuously improve their academic skills. The Excel Academy focuses on student progression in the core academic curriculum, STAAR remediation, vocational education and life skills.

■ As a partner with San Jacinto Community College, the **Vocational Education Program (VEP)** at the Harris County Youth Village provides youth, ages 16 and 17 with the opportunity to earn a GED certificate and attend vocational training in welding or electrical services.

■ The **Education Transition Center (ETC)** serves juveniles on probation who desire an alternative to traditional high school. SER Jobs for Progress provides the Eight Million Stories program at the ETC. The program provides youth with GED preparation and testing and various vocational training that leads to certification. Additionally, the ETC offers job-training skills and employment assistance.

EDUCATION ADVOCACY

The **Education Support and Advocacy Services** department advocates for improved educational services for

probation-involved youth in community settings. The education specialists and supervising attorneys provide tiered advocacy services to probation-involved youth to meet the unique needs of each youth and family, maximize the reach of its services, build capacity for self-advocacy within the community, and ensure zealous attorney representation is available when other efforts are insufficient.

Trevon Thomas

Being involved with the Juvenile System was a real life awakening experience for me. When I was handcuffed, on my way to Detention, I began crying and feeling like a failure. I was more disappointed with myself for hurting my mother when I saw the tears in her eyes. During my stay at detention, my mother always came to visit; she told me how much she loved me and although I made a mistake, this was not the end of my life. She said, "This is just a detour Trevon, we will get through this together!"

JPO Coleman, at Harris County Juvenile Probation, was the first person who truly listened and understood my situation. She cared for me as a "human being" and not a "criminal". She was always respectful and never judged me or my mother. After listening to everything we had gone through with school, Ms. Coleman immediately took action by referring us to Disability Rights Texas (DRTX).

I felt my prayers were answered when Ms. Danielle Jackson, Education Specialist, and Mrs. Sarah Beebe, Supervising Attorney, agreed to work with my family while advocating for me in school; they only had one condition, as a form of payment they expected invitations to my graduation.

Another person who had a positive impact in my life and never gave up on me since 5th grade was, Ms. Sherrie Fielder, Special Education Teacher and Therapist; She supported me through all the rough times. My mother and I would both agree that this wonderful group of ladies: Tiffany Coleman, Danielle Jackson, Sarah Beebe and Sherri Fielder are the definition of "It Takes a VILLAGE to Raise a Child." Not only did I graduate from High School, I am now planning to attend Escoffier School of Culinary Arts during summer. This is all because of people who cared and believed in my success.



Field Services Division

The Field Services Division provides supervision and individualized services to Deferred and Adjudicated youth who go through the court system and remain in the home. The supervision period varies according to the instructions of the court. There are nine (9) Community Unit Probation Services (CUPS) offices located throughout Harris County and numerous satellite offices utilized to provide more convenient locations for families.

This division has several specialty programs including the Intensive Supervision Program, Female Intervention Program, Sex Offender Program, Mental Health Program and Youth Empowerment Services Supervision Program. The primary focus of this division is help prevent further involvement in the Juvenile Justice System by providing targeted interventions and rehabilitative services.

YOUTH UNDER SPECIALIZED SUPERVISION, 2017 – 2018

2017	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	MTHLY AVG
Mental Health	143	144	133	127	128	127	121	123	121	109	106	99	123
Sex Offender	51	52	52	52	57	61	60	60	62	64	72	74	60
Aftercare	169	157	151	152	151	154	148	146	163	160	161	165	156
Gang	114	130	136	133	121	125	122	119	116	117	113	118	122
Female Intervention	48	48	45	48	48	42	43	43	43	39	43	46	45
Intensive	237	233	236	235	245	247	245	238	240	219	207	203	232
TOTAL	762	764	753	747	750	756	739	729	745	708	702	705	738

2018	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	MTHLY AVG
Mental Health	96	96	101	104	110	115	122	131	132	130	128	127	116
Sex Offender	70	68	74	76	73	75	75	72	68	67	67	67	71
Aftercare	176	166	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	171
Gang	121	123	128	127	125	122	125	126	132	133	135	129	127
Female Intervention	53	50	48	46	42	36	35	35	40	42	57	51	45
Intensive	190	189	341	317	327	343	358	384	388	347	335	305	319
Dual Status	0	0	5	10	16	21	33	44	51	58	58	64	36
TOTAL	706	692	697	680	693	712	748	792	811	777	780	743	884

YOUTH UNDER SUPERVISION, 2017 - 2018

2017	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	MTHLY AVG
Probation	1,742	1,734	1,718	1,702	1,684	1,663	1,625	1,616	1,613	1,559	1,555	1,533	1,645
Deferred Adj	643	661	664	671	674	700	763	802	779	762	756	703	715
Deferred Pros (180)	134	138	140	169	176	201	218	209	190	171	172	164	174
Deferred Pros (90)	180	214	263	256	236	200	169	133	90	94	122	155	176
Deferred Pros (90) - under age 12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	5	4
TOTAL	2,699	2,747	2,785	2,798	2,770	2,764	2,775	2,760	2,672	2,586	2,607	2,560	2,711

2018	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	MTHLY AVG
Probation	1,524	1,483	1,466	1,426	1,431	1,425	1,448	1,554	1,617	1,612	1,614	1,606	1,400
Deferred Adj	666	668	711	759	779	857	936	952	978	954	921	806	832
Deferred Pros (180)	148	137	144	171	213	234	243	236	227	222	203	183	197
Deferred Pros (90)	177	166	161	184	232	294	282	226	157	117	128	157	190
Deferred Pros (90) - under age 12	7	9	8	7	7	13	19	17	14	6	4	3	10
TOTAL	2,522	2,463	2,490	2,547	2,662	2,823	2,928	2,985	2,993	2,911	2,870	2,755	2,629

Field Services Division

DEFERRED ADJUDICATION

The courts also offer Deferred Adjudication to youth who are generally non-violent offenders. The program guides the youth through six months of supervision aimed at diverting them from further involvement in the juvenile justice system. Upon successful completion of the Deferred Adjudication contract, the case can be dismissed.

In 2018: an average of 400 youth were on Deferred Adjudication each month.

SERVICE-LEARNING

The Field Services Division utilizes the Service-Learning Model and Community Service Projects to fulfill Community Service Requirements. Service-Learning builds strong character while engaging youth in global and community problem solving. Service-Learning enables youth to apply knowledge and skills learned through research to meaningful service to the community. The projects are youth led and involves real-life experiences and workplace skills, which enhances personal development and growth.

SERVICE-LEARNING in 2018

Youth
participated
463

Total hours
of service
4,231

Projected
value
\$106,240.42

Service-Learning
projects
53

2018 HIGHLIGHTS YOUTH LED SERVICE LEARNING PROJECT

- Produced bandanas for dogs awaiting adoption
- Created trail mix bags for youth residents at the Kinder Youth Shelter
- Made table centerpieces for a senior citizens' event at Autumn Leaves of Cy-Fair
- **Jump into Recycling** – Recycling plastic bags and making them into jump ropes
- **Youth Against Bullying** – Designed bookmarks and an ABC Coloring Booklet to bridge the gap between younger and older children. The older children colored one-on-one with the younger children.
- **The Fluoriders** – Importance oral health
- **Be Smart, Eat Smart** – Taught the benefits of having a healthy diet and facts about nutrition to youth who attended LinkUp Houston
- **Don't Be Mean, Keep Texas Clean** – Built a Texas shape art piece to simulate what littering in Texas looks like
- **Tree Huggers** – Deforestation project
- **Butterfly Pallet Art** – Recycled soda cans and wood pallets made into pallet art displayed above the butterfly garden at JJAEP
- **Water Pollution/Water Quality** – Youth at JJAEP authored and illustrated a children's book bringing awareness to water pollution and water quality
- **Green Gardeners** – Designed, painted, and dedicated a new sign for the Tom Brooks Green Garden
- **The Troubled Mind of a Patriot** – Addressed mental health issues that may occur amongst those who are veterans by creating a banner, military coasters, and dog tags with patriotic logos and words of encouragement all donated to Wheelchairs for Warriors

“Let today be the start of something new”

- unknown -



Administrative Areas

OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS - OPA

The Office of Public Affairs is the primary point of contact for news media, organizations and the public seeking information about the department. The OPA also oversees legal affairs, including the administering of contracts and grants. OPA staff are involved in the processing and training of agency volunteers, vendors and community partners.

BUDGET AND SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION

The Budget and Support Services division enhances the mission of the department by providing professional services in the areas of budget, fleet management services, fiscal management and supportive services. Budget and fiscal management services manage the agency's general fund, revenues and expenditures.

MONETARY RESTITUTION IN 2018:

- The courts ordered 444 juvenile offenders to pay \$345,341.06 to victims.
- The department collected \$146,364.43 in financial restitution.
- In all, \$491,588.60 was disbursed to victims.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DIVISION

The Administrative Services Division consists of Human Resources and Technology Systems Development (TSD). The six major areas of the division are: Personnel, Payroll, Computer Networking, Information Systems, Data Management, and Research. These areas work together to support the mission of the department by meeting the agency's staffing and information technology needs while providing direct support for all HCJPD employees.

TRAINING AND QUALITY ASSURANCE DIVISION - TAQA

TAQA is dedicated to promoting excellence in training and program accountability. The division provides new employee orientation, officer certification training, MANDT training and Motivational Interviewing training, among others. The Division also trains new staff on the Positive Achievement Change Tool (PACT), an evidence based assessment tool for determining youths' needs and risks; TAQA is also responsible for providing training and support to PACT users. The division also coordinates on-going advanced training relevant to juvenile justice trends and evidence-based practices. TAQA is responsible for overseeing quality assurance and maintains the departmental policies and procedures manual. Additionally, the division oversees the HCJPD Internship Program and provides mentoring to students throughout their internship experience. All areas of TAQA work together to identify agency needs while providing HCJPD staff with research based information and training.

*“In the waves of change,
we find our
true direction”*

- unknown -

In 2018 HCJPD

1,214
current
employees

2,077
training hours
conducted

185
new hires
processed

182
initial
certifications

35
students completed
the internship
program

409
renewal
certifications

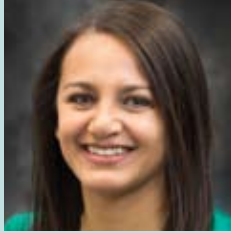
2018 Employees of the Year

EDUCATOR



Penny Vasek

SUPPORT SERVICES



Desirae Gonzales

JSO



Randy Teal

JPO



John Munoz

BOSS



Darren O'Neal

STAFF SERVICES



Lilia Cisneros

MYRTA FARIZA HUMANITARIAN AWARD



Birgit "Gypsy" Walker

2018 Employees of the Month

JANUARY



Shanese Hunter

FEBRUARY



Roberta Wise

MARCH



Antoine Green

APRIL



Michelle Hallock

MAY



Zacharias Zachopoulos

JUNE



Najat Elsayed

JULY



Matthew Schippers

AUGUST



Jordan Ardoin

SEPTEMBER



Waynette Rector

OCTOBER



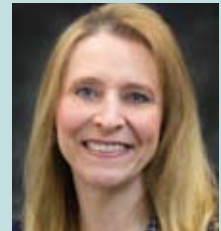
James Jones

NOVEMBER



Caesar Gerrard

DECEMBER



Jacqueline Zalesnik

25 Years SERVICE AWARD

Edward Baldazo
Roderick Brown
Myrna Rubio
Patricia Carter
Javier Mendoza
Edward Motes

30 Years SERVICE AWARD

Ruben Nweke (Obi)
Terri Turner
Marilyn Broussard Webb



Henry Gonzales, who is Chief now, was Rene's probation officer and with encouragement and guidance, Rene is now living a fulfilled life as a teacher and father.



HARRIS COUNTY JUVENILE PROBATION DEPARTMENT

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